

## **How to Read the Test Reports LANGUAGE ARTS**

### **Overview of Grades 4, 8, and 11**

#### **Grade 4**

##### **Charts 4.1 – 4.4: Statewide by District Size Category (horizontal charts)**

- Arranged from the bottom of the chart up beginning with the state and going up the left side of the chart in the order of district-size category, small to large.
- The district size categories and the number of students tested in that district size category are labeled.
- The percents along the bottom of the chart are the NPRs.

#### **Grade 8**

##### **Charts 8.1 – 8.4: Statewide by District Size Category (horizontal charts)**

- Arranged from the bottom of the chart up beginning with the state and going up the left side of the chart in the order of district-size category, small to large.
- The district size categories and the number of students tested in that district size category are labeled.
- The district size categories are by size of the district and type.
- The percents along the bottom of the chart are the NPRs.

#### **Grade 11**

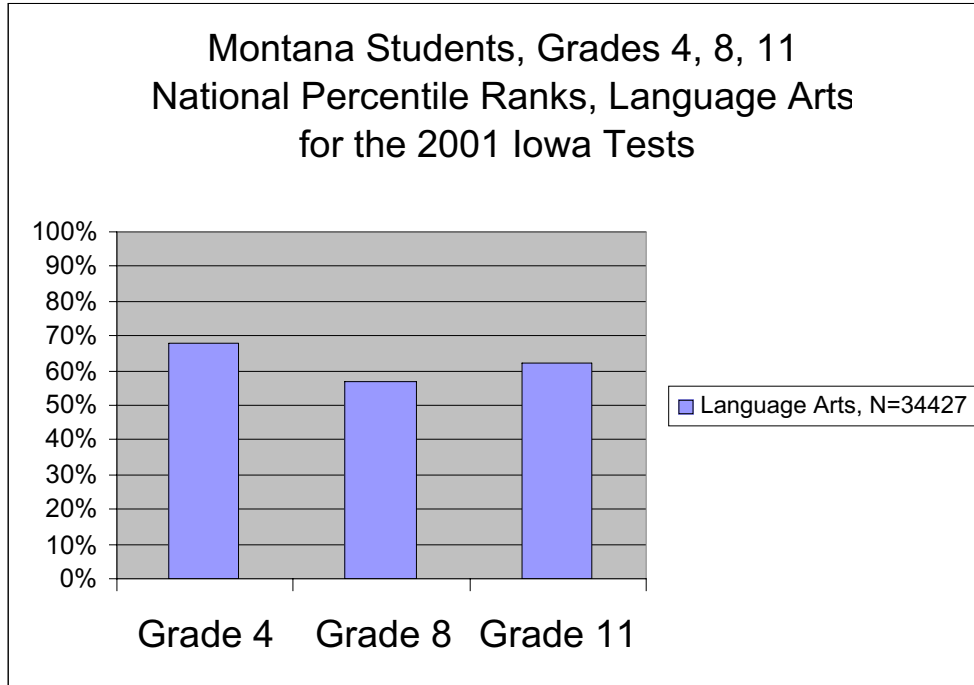
##### **Charts 11.1 – 11.4: Statewide by District Size Category (horizontal charts)**

- Arranged from the bottom of the chart up beginning with the state and going up the left side of the chart in the order of district-size category, small to large.
- The district size categories and the number of students tested in that district size category are labeled.
- The district size categories are by size of the district and type.
- The percents along the bottom of the chart are the NPRs.

## Language Arts, Grades 4, 8, and 11

**Chart 1: 4, 8, 11 LA**

The chart below shows the National Percentile Ranks for grades 4, 8, and 11. Grade 4 scored 68%, grade 8 scored 57%, and grade 11 scored 62%.



**Table 1: 4, 8, 11 LA**

The table below shows the percentage of students for each disaggregation scoring in the combined Proficient and Advanced categories (P+A) and the Novice category for each of the three grades.

| Groups                            | Grade 4                  |                           | Grade 8                  |                           | Grade 11                 |                           |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                   | P + A<br>Stanines<br>5-9 | Novice<br>Stanines<br>1-3 | P + A<br>Stanines<br>5-9 | Novice<br>Stanines<br>1-3 | P + A<br>Stanines<br>5-9 | Novice<br>Stanines<br>1-3 |
| All Students                      | 78%                      | 10%                       | 71%                      | 14%                       | 67%                      | 10%                       |
| Students Without<br>Disabilities  | 81%                      | 7%                        | 76%                      | 9%                        | 80%                      | 7%                        |
| Students With<br>Disabilities     | 33%                      | 39%                       | 15%                      | 61%                       | 22%                      | 45%                       |
| Female Students                   | 81%                      | 7%                        | 79%                      | 8%                        | 85%                      | 4%                        |
| Male Students                     | 73%                      | 12%                       | 62%                      | 20%                       | 68%                      | 15%                       |
| Native American<br>Students       | 55%                      | 23%                       | 43%                      | 34%                       | 51%                      | 24%                       |
| White Students                    | 80%                      | 8%                        | 74%                      | 11%                       | 79%                      | 8%                        |
| Students on<br>Free/Reduced Lunch | 65%                      | 16%                       | 55%                      | 25%                       | 60%                      | 18%                       |

**Table 2: 4, 8, 11 LA**

National Percentile Rank for each disaggregation across Montana.

| <b>Groups</b>                  | <b>Grade 4</b> | <b>Grade 8</b> | <b>Grade 11</b> |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| All Students                   | 68%            | 57%            | 62%             |
| Students Without Disabilities  | 71%            | 60%            | 64%             |
| Students With Disabilities     | 33%            | 26%            | 27%             |
| Female Students                | 72%            | 62%            | 69%             |
| Male Students                  | 64%            | 52%            | 55%             |
| Native American Students       | 49%            | 41%            | 42%             |
| White Students                 | 70%            | 59%            | 63%             |
| Students on Free/Reduced Lunch | 57%            | 48%            | 49%             |

**Table 3: 4, 8, 11 LA**

Customized Skills Reports: Montana Language Arts Standards tested in the Iowa Tests

| <b>Standard</b>   | <b>Grade 4</b> |                 | <b>Grade 8</b> |                 | <b>Grade 11</b> |                 |
|---|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|   | # of Items     | Percent Correct | # of Items     | Percent Correct | # of Items      | Percent Correct |
| <b>Literature</b>   |                |                 |                |                 |                 |                 |
| Comprehend, interpret, analyze and respond to literary works.   | 40*            | 67%             | 56             | 66%             | 54              | 60%             |
| Recognize and evaluate literary elements, devices, and language.  | 14*            | 67%             | 21             | 71%             | 21              | 57%             |
| <b>Writing</b>  |                |                 |                |                 |                 |                 |
| Write clearly and effectively.  | 123            | 67%             | 167*           | 61%             | 83*             | 61%             |
| Apply a range of skills and strategies.   | 116            | 66%             | 147*           | 61%             | 72*             | 60%             |
| Write for a variety of purposes and audiences.  | 1*             | 77%             | Na             | Na              | 1*              | 58%             |
| Recognize and apply the structures of various forms.  | 1*             | 64%             | 1*             | 48%             | Na              | Na              |
| Analyze, synthesize and communicate information appropriately.  | 12*            | 64%             | 8*             | 62%             | 20*             | 60%             |
| * The Iowa Tests measure the knowledge dimension of the Montana Standard, but do not adequately measure the application aspect. |                |                 |                |                 |                 |                 |

**Table 4: 8 LA**

NAEP writing data for a sample of Montana grade 8 students are included to add to the picture of student achievement in Language Arts (Communication Arts). Although NAEP data give another perspective to the picture of Montana students, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students tested in 1998 are not the same 8<sup>th</sup> grade students measured in the 2001 statewide assessment.

With the scores for Montana White and Montana Native American students are the percent of students who scored basic or above. It should be noted that the number of White students tested is considerably larger and therefore, generalizations are safer. For example, in the 1998 grade 8 test, 1,743 Montana White students and 134 Montana Native American students were included in the testing sample.

| <b>Grade:Year</b> | <b>Average Score</b> |                       |                                 |                    |                      |                                |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
|                   | <b>All National</b>  | <b>White National</b> | <b>Native American National</b> | <b>All Montana</b> | <b>White Montana</b> | <b>Native American Montana</b> |
| <b>8: 1998</b>    | 150                  | 158                   | 132                             | 150                | 153<br>(88%)         | 134<br>(72%)                   |

**Table 5: 11 LA**

ACT English (Language Arts/Communication Arts) results for the high school graduating class of 2001

| <b>Average Score All National</b> | <b>Average Score All Montana</b> | <b>Average Score White Montana</b> | <b>Average Score Native American Montana</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 20.5                              | 20.8                             | 21.1                               | 15.7   |

Of the 6,641 Montana students taking the ACT, 5,699 include White students and 319 include Native American students.

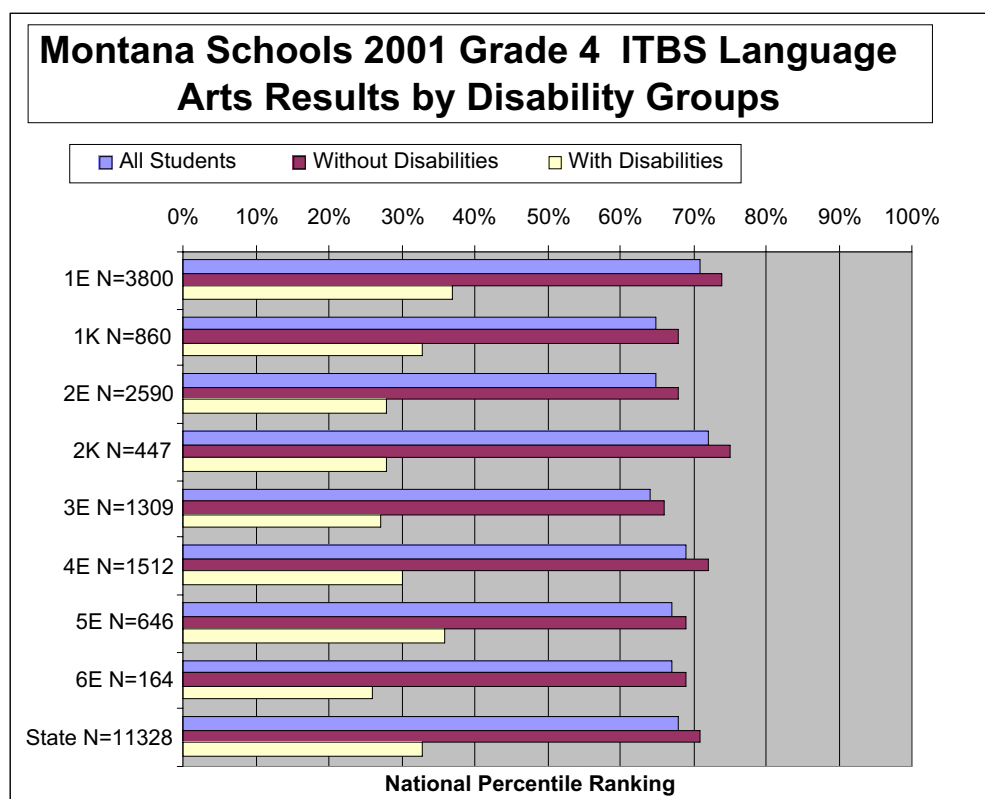
**Table 6: 11 LA**

SAT Verbal results for the high school graduating class of 2001

| <b>Average Score All National</b> | <b>Average Score All Montana</b> | <b>Average Score White Montana</b> | <b>Average Score Native American Montana</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 506                               | 539                              | 540                                | 494  |

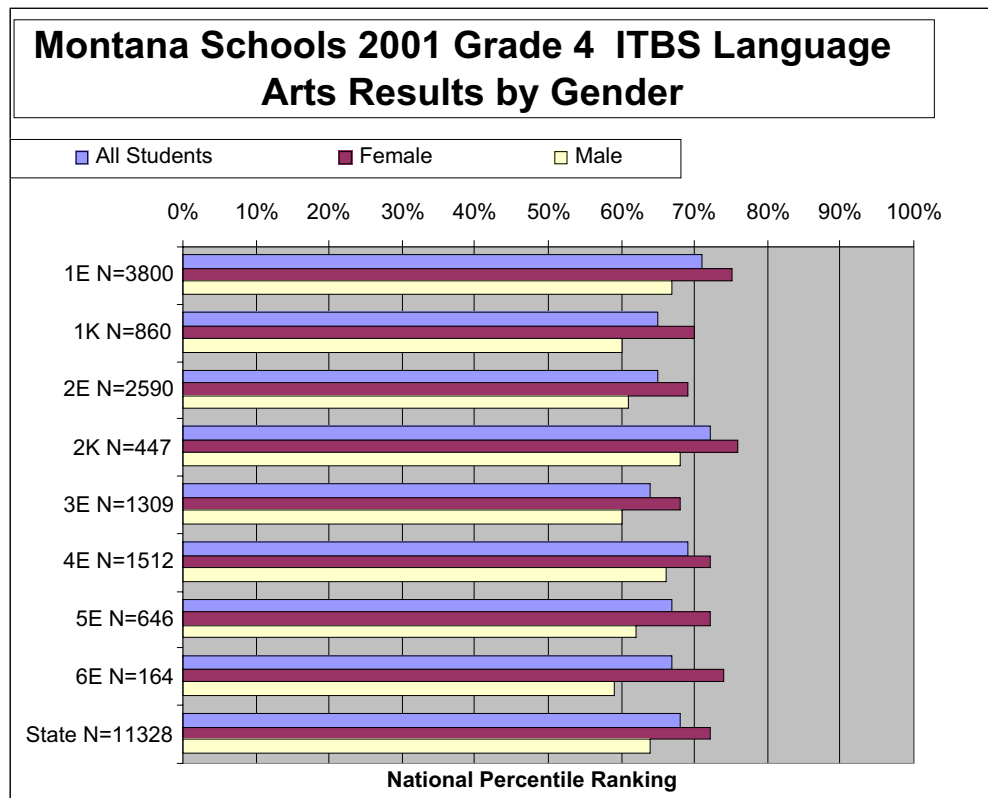
Of the 2,762 Montana students taking the SAT, 2,342 include White students and 39 include Native American students.

Chart 4.1 LA



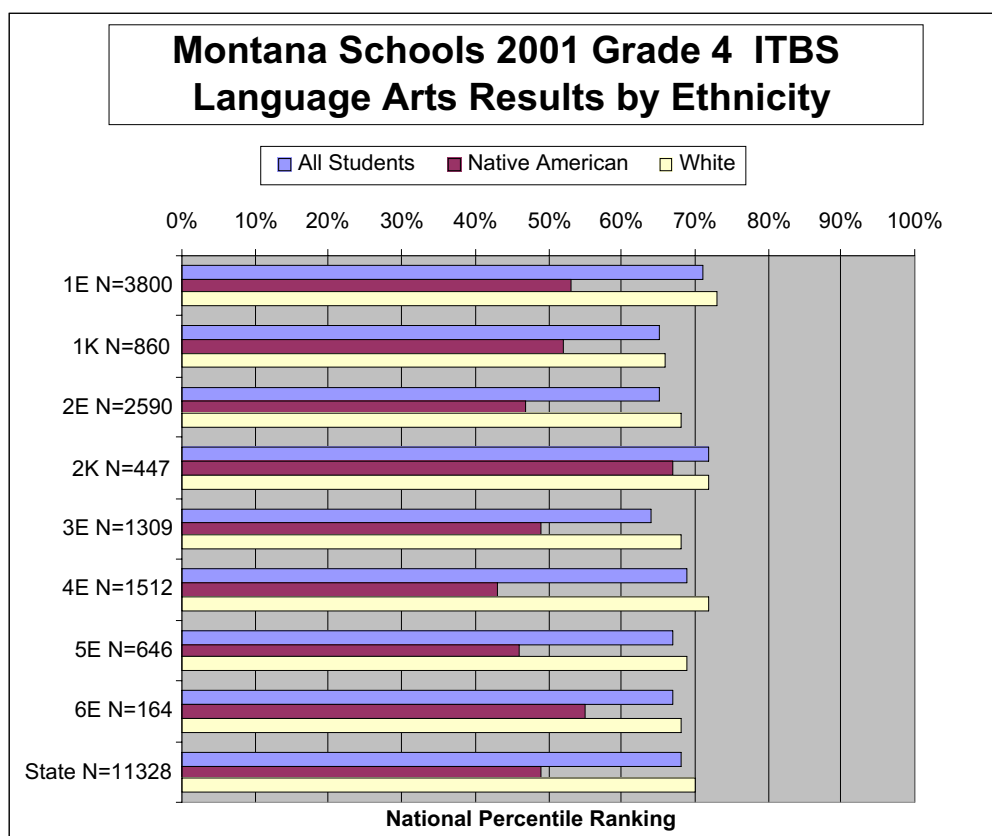
1. All students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 68%.
2. Students without disabilities
  - Statewide, the NPR for students without disabilities is 71%. This number is stable with most districts plus or minus 3-4 percentage points.
3. Students with disabilities
  - Statewide, the NPR for students with disabilities is 33%. This number is stable with most district size categories at plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except a very small number of students in 6E.
4. Students without and with disabilities compared
  - Statewide, Montana students without disabilities scored 38 percentage points above students with disabilities, 71% and 33% respectively. This number is relatively stable with most districts 3-4 points plus or minus the 38 percentage points except for a small number of students in district sizes 2K and 6E.

**Chart 4.2 LA**



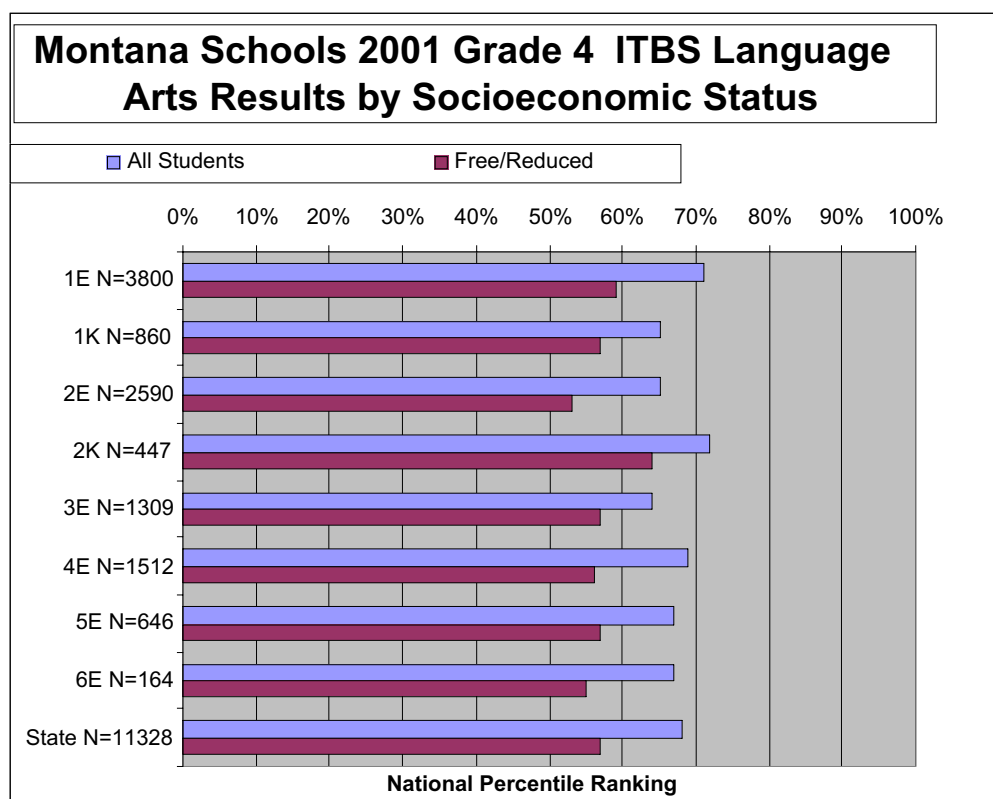
1. Male and female students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 68%.
2. Female students
  - Statewide, the NPR for female students is 72%. That number is stable with all district size categories plus or minus 3-4 percentage points.
3. Male students
  - Statewide, the NPR for male students is 64%. That number is relatively stable with most district size categories plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except for district size 6E (59% for 79 males tested), but the number is small, making the data less stable.
4. Male and female students compared
  - Statewide, females scored eight percentages point above the males, 72% and 64% respectively, except in district size category 6E where the difference is 15 percentage points for 85 female students and 79 male students.

**Chart 4.3 LA**



1. All students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 68%.
2. Native American students
  - Statewide, the NPR for Native American students is 49%. This number is relatively stable with most districts plus or minus 5-6 percentage points except 2K whose small number of Native American students scored 67%.
3. White students
  - Statewide, the NPR for White students tested is 70%. This number is relatively stable with most district size categories at plus or minus 4-5 percentage points.
4. Native American and White students compared
  - Statewide, Montana White students scored 21 percentage points above Native American students, 70% and 49% respectively. This number is relatively stable with one district size category, 4E showing a 29 point difference for its 193 Native American students. 1K, 2K, and 6E also show variation, but the small number of Native Americans tested makes the data less stable and appropriate for comparisons.

Chart 4.4 LA



1. All students

- The NPR for all Montana students is 68%.

2. Students participating in free/reduced lunch programs

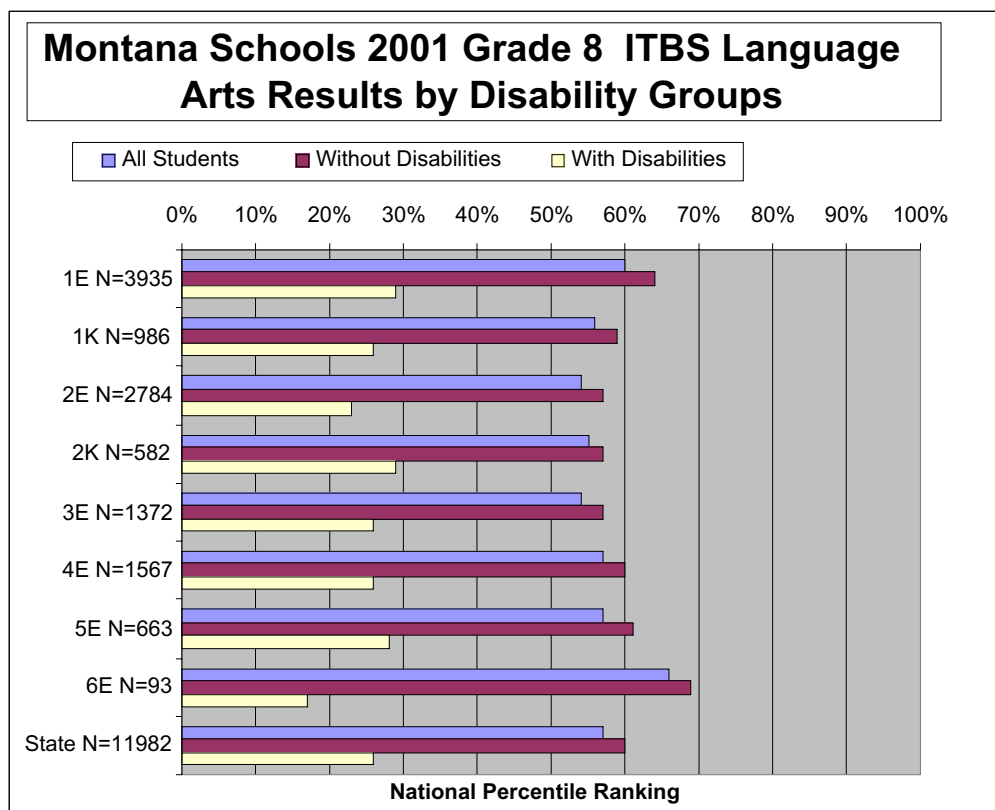
- Statewide, the NPR for students participating in free/reduced lunch programs is 57%. This number is relatively stable with all but one district size category scoring within plus or minus 2-3 percentage points. The 155 students in the 2K district size category who participated in free/reduced lunch programs scored 64%, seven points above the state for that group.

3. Comparison

Statewide, all Montana students scored eleven percentage points higher than those participating in free/reduced lunch programs, 68% and 57% respectively.

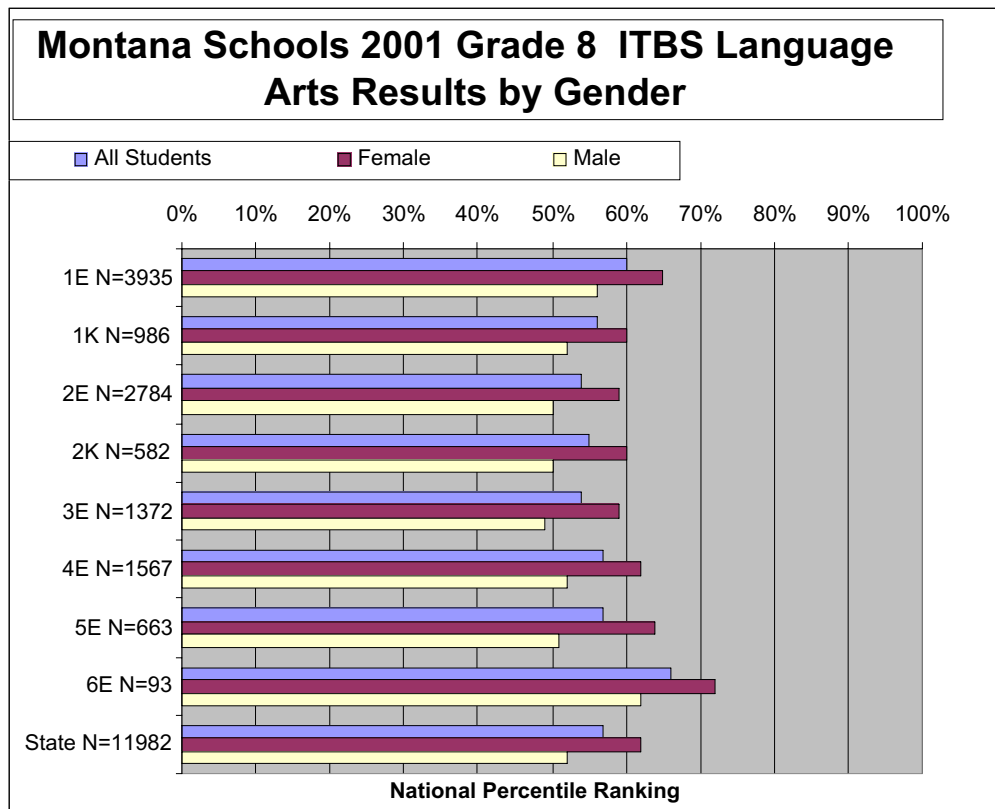


Chart 8.1 LA



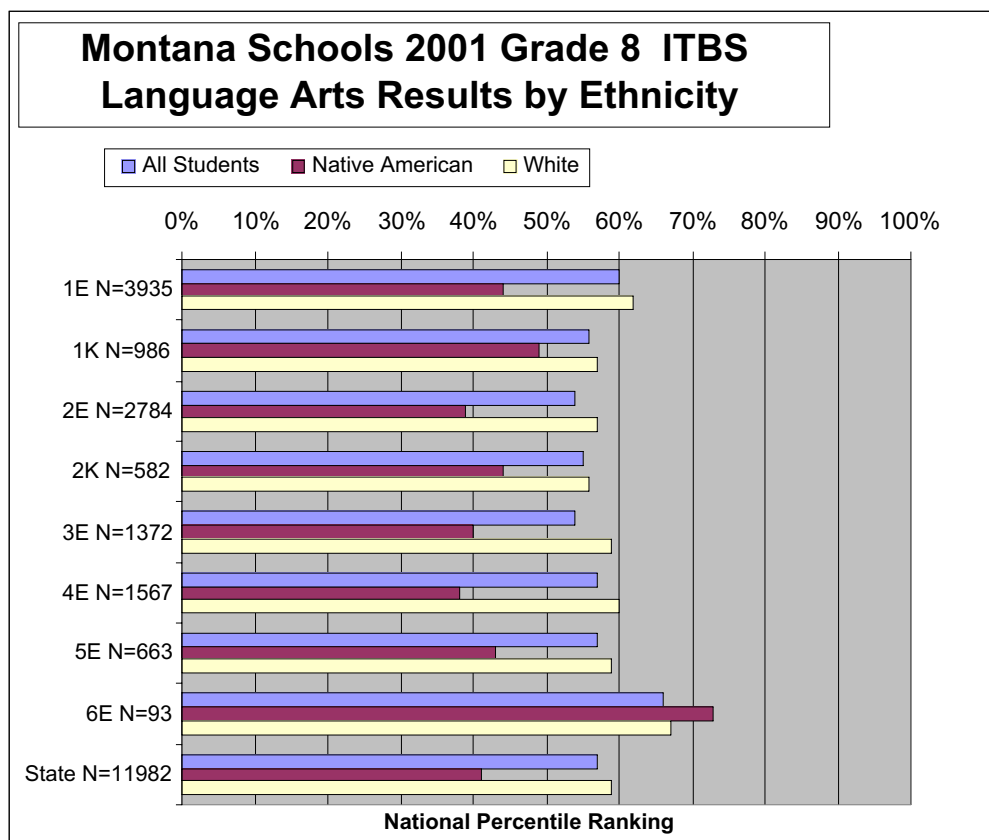
1. All students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 57%.
2. Students without disabilities
  - Statewide, the NPR for students without disabilities is 60%. This number is stable with most districts size categories plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except 6E with 69%.
3. Students with disabilities
  - Statewide, the NPR for students with disabilities is 26%. This number is stable with most district size categories at plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except a very small number of students in 6E.
4. Students without and with disabilities compared
  - Statewide, Montana students without disabilities scored 34 percentage points above students with disabilities, 60% and 26% respectively. This number is stable with most district size categories 3-4 points plus or minus the 34 percentage points except for a small number of students in district size 6E.

**Chart 8.2 LA**



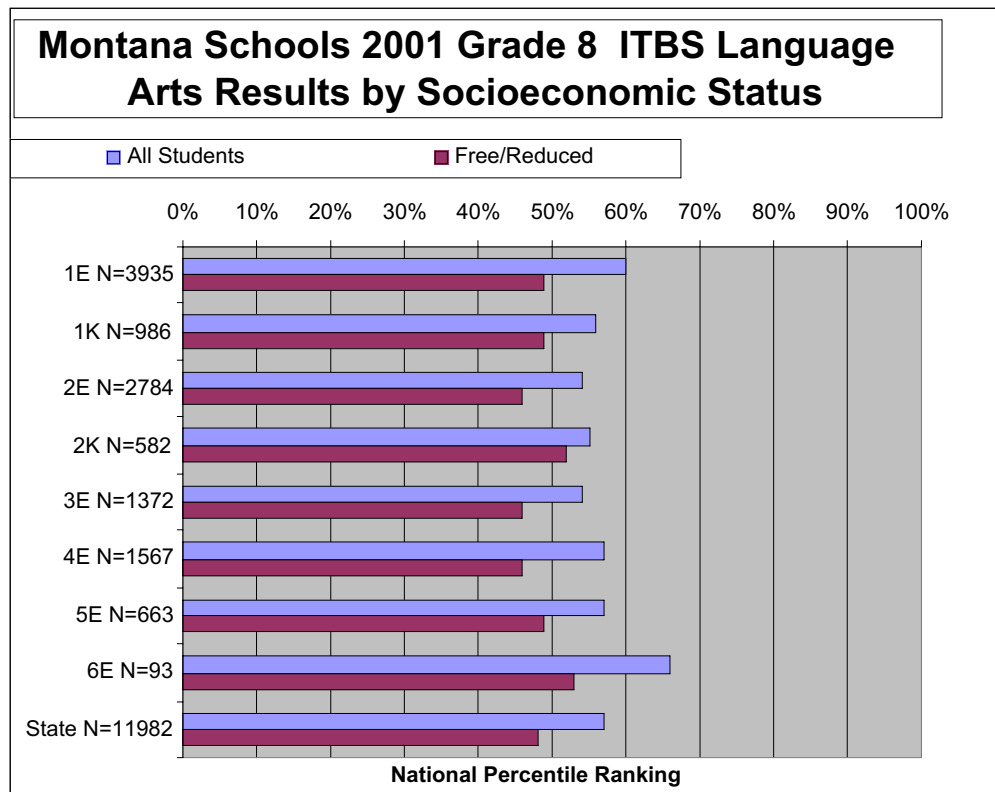
1. Male and female students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 57%.
2. Female students
  - Statewide, the NPR for female students is 62%. That number is stable with most district size categories plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except for district size 6E (72% for 40 students tested).
3. Male students
  - Statewide, the NPR for male students is 52%. That number is stable with most district size categories plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except for district size 6E (62% for 53 males tested), but the number is small, making 6E data less stable.
4. Male and female students compared
  - Statewide, females scored ten percentages point above the males, 62% and 52% respectively.

Chart 8.3 LA



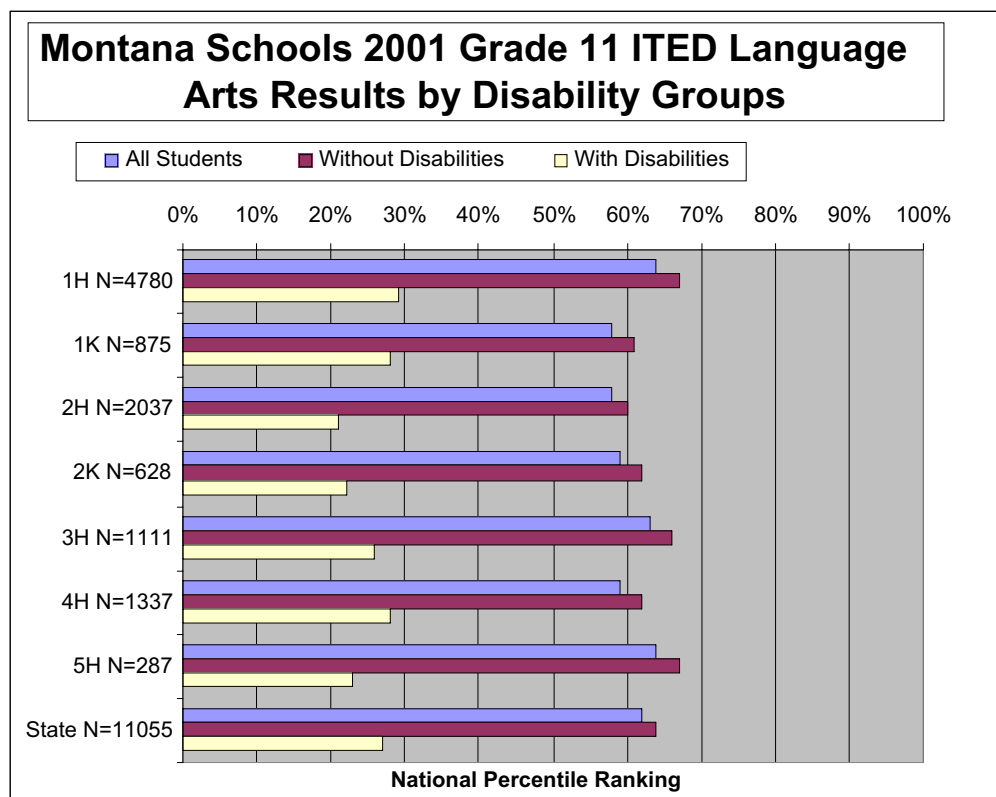
1. All students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 57%.
2. Native American students
  - Statewide, the NPR for Native American students is 41%. This number is relatively stable with most districts plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except 1K whose 65 Native American students scored 49%. 6E Native American students scored 73%, but the number is too small for any comparisons.
3. White students
  - Statewide, the NPR for White students tested is 59%. This number is relatively stable with most district size categories at plus or minus 4-5 percentage points except 6E whose White students scored 67%.
4. Native American and White students compared
  - Statewide, Montana White students scored eighteen percentage points above Native American students, 59% and 41% respectively. This number is relatively stable with two district size categories, (2K, 12 points, and 1K, 8 points) showing a smaller point difference. 6E also showed variation, but the small number of Native Americans tested makes the data too small for any comparisons.

**Chart 8.4 LA**



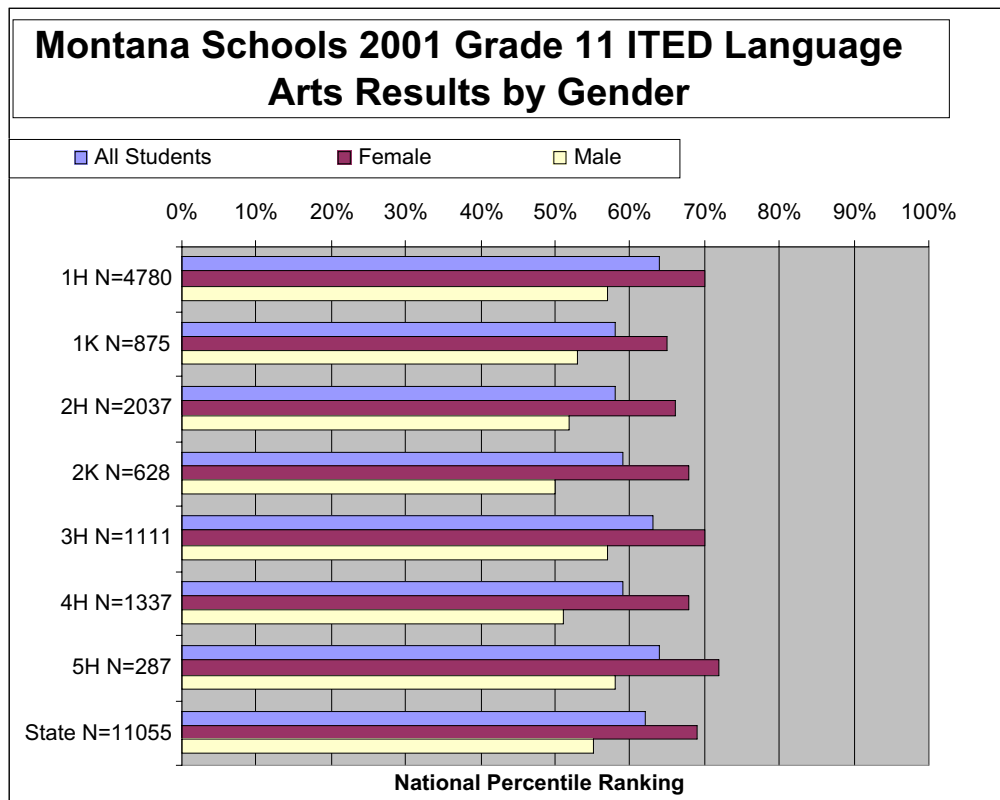
1. All students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 57%.
2. Students participating in free/reduced lunch programs
  - Statewide, the NPR for students participating in free/reduced lunch programs is 48%.  
This number is stable with most district size categories within plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except for a very small number of students in district size category 6E.
3. Comparison
  - Statewide, all Montana students scored nine percentage points higher than those participating in free/reduced lunch programs, 57% and 48% respectively.

**Chart 11.1 LA**



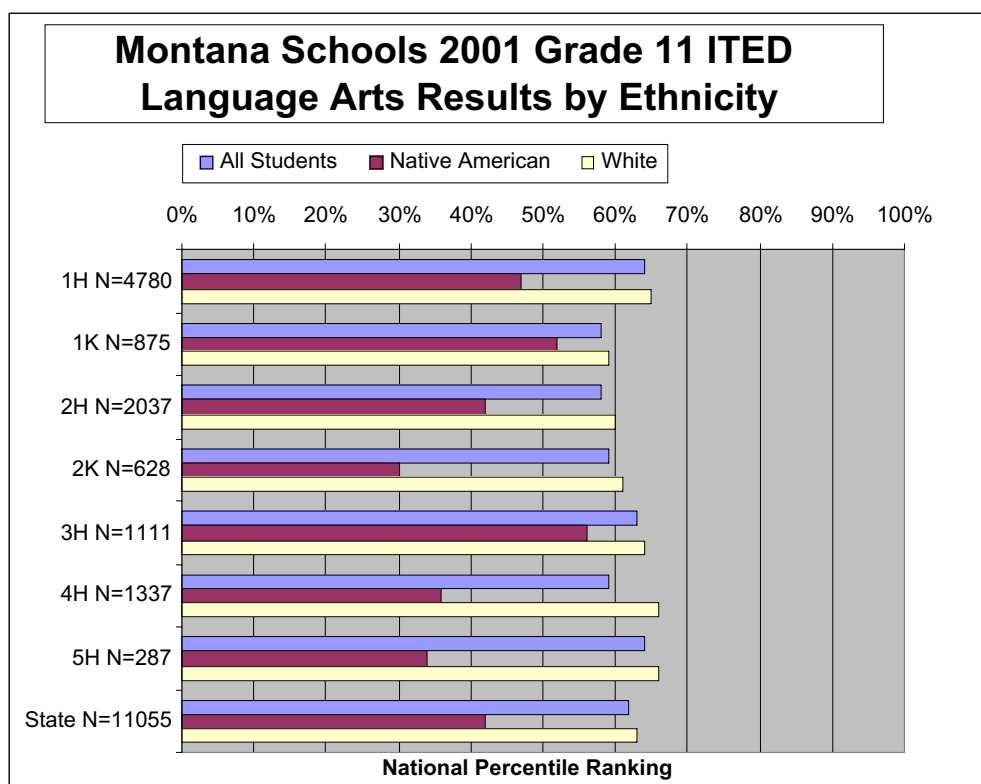
1. All students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 62%.
2. Students without disabilities
  - Statewide, the NPR for students without disabilities is 64%. This number is stable with districts size categories plus or minus 3-4 percentage points.
3. Students with disabilities
  - Statewide, the NPR for students with disabilities is 27%. This number is relatively stable with most district size categories at plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except for district size category 2H (109 students, 21%) and a small number of students in district size category 2K.
4. Students without and with disabilities compared
  - Statewide, Montana students without disabilities scored 37 percentage points above students with disabilities, 64% and 27% respectively. This number is stable with most district size categories 3-4 points plus or minus the 37 percentage points.

**Chart 11.2 LA**



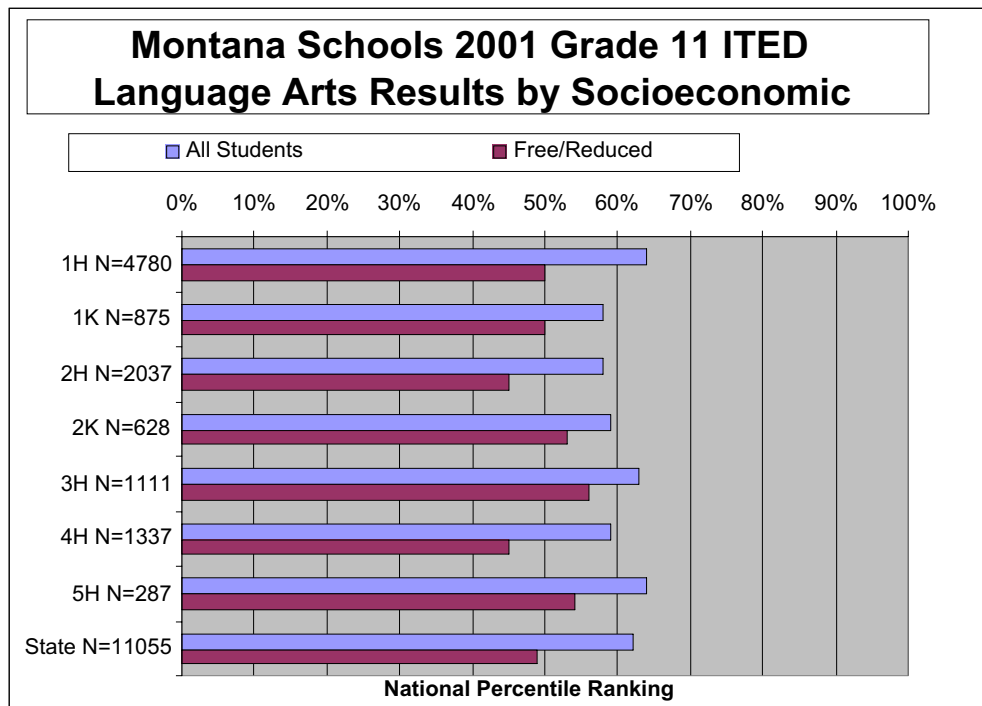
1. Male and female students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 62%.
2. Female students
  - Statewide, the NPR for female students is 69%. That number is stable with all district size categories plus or minus 3-4 percentage points.
3. Male students
  - Statewide, the NPR for male students is 55%. That number is stable with most district size categories plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except for district size 2K (50% for 319 males tested).
4. Male and female students compared
  - Statewide, females scored fourteen percentage points above the males, 69% and 55% respectively.

**Chart 11.3 LA**



1. All students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 62%.
2. Native American students
  - Statewide, the NPR for Native American students is 42%. This number is relatively stable with most districts plus or minus 5-6 percentage points except 3H whose 90 Native American students scored 56%. Three other size categories were beyond 5-6 percentage points (5H, 34%; 2K, 30%; 1K, 52%), but the small numbers limit comparisons.
3. White students
  - Statewide, the NPR for White students tested is 63%. This number is relatively stable with most district size categories at plus or minus 3-4 percentage points.
4. Native American and White students compared
  - Statewide, Montana White students scored 21 percentage points above Native American students, 63% and 42% respectively. This number is relatively stable with two district size categories, (1K, 7 points; 3H, 8 points) showing a different point difference. 5H and 2K also showed variation, but the small number of Native Americans tested makes the data too small for any comparisons.

**Chart 11.4 LA**



1. All students
  - The NPR for all Montana students is 62%.
2. Students participating in free/reduced lunch programs
  - Statewide, the NPR for students participating in free/reduced lunch programs is 49%. This number is relatively stable with most district size categories within plus or minus 3-4 percentage points except for district size categories 3H (199 students, 56%) and 5H (81 students, 54%).
3. Comparison
  - Statewide, all Montana students scored thirteen percentage points higher than those participating in free/reduced lunch programs, 62% and 49% respectively.